

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUALA 06941 030939Z

22

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OMB-01 ACDA-07 /077 W

----- 105325

R 030641Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5385

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE KUALA LUMPUR 6941

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, TH, MY

SUBJECT: MALAYSIAN AND THAI PRIME MINISTERS AGREE "IN PRINCIPLE"
ON NEW BORDER SECURITY PACT

REF: (A) KUALA LUMPUR 6884, (B) KUALA LUMPUR 6826, (C) BANGKOK
32481 (NOTAL)

1. RELIABLE MALAYSIAN JOURNALIST TOLD US TODAY (DEC 2) THAT HE HAS
LEARNED FROM AN AUTHORITATIVE SOURCE THAT THE GOM AND RTG WILL BE
SIGNING A NEW GENERAL BORDER AGREEMENT (GBA) "SHORTLY" THAT
ALTHOUGH "UPDATED" WILL BE ESSENTIALLY THE SAME AS ITS PREDECESSOR
(WHICH IN EFFECT WAS ABROGATED LAST JUNE WHEN THE RTG EXPELLED
SEVERAL HUNDRED MALAYSIAN PARAMILITARY POLICE--POLICE FIELD
FORCE--AND POLICE SPECIAL BRANCH INTELLIGENCE OPERATIVES
STATIONED IN THE BETONG SALIENT). THE NEW AGREEMENT WOULD INCLUDE
THE PROVISION FOR "HOT PURSUIT" GOM SO STRONGLY DESIRES.

2. ACCORDING TO OUR JOURNALIST CONTACT'S INFORMANT, THE GOM
OFFERED (OR REQUESTED?) TO DISPATCH PFF PERSONNEL TO BETONG ONCE
AGAIN TO AUGMENT THAI FORCES STATIONED THERE. THANIN

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PAGE 02 KUALA 06941 030939Z

HOWEVER WAS NON-COMMITTAL, SAYING ONLY THAT THIS WOULD HAVE

TO BE DISCUSSED WITH HIS COLLEAGUES ON HIS RETURN TO BANGKOK.
HIS LACK OF ENTHUSIASM FOR THE PROPOSAL SUGGESTED THERE IS
LITTLE LIKELIHOOD THE RTG WOULD ACCEPT A RETURN TO THE STATUS
QUO ANTE ON THIS SUBJECT, OUR CONTACT OPINED. HE ADDED THAT
HIS ACQUAINTANCES IN THE MALAYSIAN SECURITY APPARATUS WERE AWARE
THE THAIS LACKED MANPOWER TO FULFILL THEIR PROMISES TO CARRY
OUT SWEEPING CRACKDOWNS AGAINST CPM ELEMENTS ON THEIR SIDE OF
THE BORDER (ALONG THE SAME LINES REPORTED BY BANGKOK--REF C).
AS THEY SEE IT, THE MOST VIGOROUS ACTIONS TO DATE HAVE COME
ONLY AFTER AMBUSHES OF THAI PERSONNEL LED TO REPRISAL
ATTACKS ON CPM FORCES; TRADITIONALLY THE THAI FORCES HAVE NOT
INITIATED CONTACTS, OUR SOURCE REPORTED.
UNDERHILL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, BORDER CONTROLS, BORDER GUARDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976KUALA06941
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760447-0933
From: KUALA LUMPUR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761276/aaaacnjq.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 KUALA LUMPUR 6884, 76 KUALA LUMPUR 6826, 76 BANGKOK 197
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 MAY 2004 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <22 SEP 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MALAYSIAN AND THAI PRIME MINISTERS AGREE "IN PRINCIPLE" ON NEW BORDER SECURITY PACT
TAGS: PFOR, PINS, TH, MY
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006